

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (original) A playback apparatus for recording media comprising:
 - a receiver for receiving a plurality of holders for holding recording media, said holders overlapping to each other;
 - a playback device for playing back the recording media held by the holders;
 - a transporting device for transporting the playback device to a position facing a recording surface of a selected recording medium; and
 - a separating device for separating a selected holder from the other holders in a direction of overlapping of the recording media,wherein the separating device is movable in the direction of overlapping of the recording media, and includes a first member having a guiding groove on which the holder with the selected recording medium slides, and a second member movable in the direction of overlapping independently from the first member, wherein a separating groove, on which the holders holding the other recording media slide, is formed by a relative movement between the first and the second members.
2. (original) The playback apparatus as claimed in claim 1,
 - wherein a groove width of the separating groove is variable corresponding to relative movement between the first member and the second member.
3. (original) The playback apparatus as claimed in claim 2,
 - wherein the separating groove includes a first separating groove engaged with the other holders disposed upper than the holder holding the selected recording medium, and a second separating groove engaged with the other holders disposed lower than the holder holding the selected recording medium,
 - wherein the groove width between the first and the second grooves is variable corresponding to relative movement between the cam member and the transporting member.

4. (original) The playback apparatus as claimed in claim 3,

wherein the first separating groove may be composed of a first all and a top wall of the first member, and the second separating groove may be composed of a second wall and a bottom wall of the first member.

5. (currently amended) The playback apparatus as claimed in claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1 to 4~~,

wherein the separating device is disposed coaxially with the first and the second members, and includes a rotation member for respectively rotating the first and the second members.

6. (currently amended) The playback apparatus as claimed in claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1 to 5~~,

wherein the separating device has a single driving source for driving the cam member and the transporting member in a direction of overlapping of the holders.

7. (original) A playback apparatus for recording media comprising:

a receiver for receiving a plurality of holders for holding recording media, said holders overlapping to each other;

a playback device for playing back the recording media held by the holders;

a transporting device for transporting the playback device to a position facing a recording surface of a selected recording medium; and

a separating device for separating a selected holder from the other holders in a direction of overlapping of the recording media,

wherein the separating device is movable in the direction of overlapping of the recording media, and includes a first member having a guiding groove on which the holder with the selected recording medium slides, and a second member movable in the direction of overlapping independently from the first member,

wherein the separating device includes a dividable sliding wall for sliding the other holders in a direction of separating the other holders from the selected holder.

8. (original) The playback apparatus as claimed in claim 7,

further comprising a carrying device for carrying the recording media to or from the receiver,

wherein the separating device includes a cam member being movable in the direction of overlapping of the recording media, and slidably engaged with the selected holder, and a transporting device for sliding part transporting a part of the sliding wall in the direction of overlapping for dividing the sliding wall when the carrying device transports the recording medium,

wherein when the transporting device transports the playback device, the cam member and the sliding wall compose a spaced groove, and when the carrying device carries the recording medium, the cam member and the divided sliding wall compose the spaced groove,

wherein the other holders are engaged with the spaced groove and slide along the sliding wall or the divided sliding wall, so that the other holders are removed from the selected holder.

9. (currently amended) The playback apparatus as claimed in claim 7 ~~any one of claims 7 to 8~~,

wherein the sliding part includes first and second sliding parts both having a slope wall sloping in the same direction,

wherein when the carrying member carries the recording medium, the transporting device for sliding part transports any one of the first or the second sliding parts relative to the other so that a part of the sliding wall is divided.